



Mansfield Middle School Association
March 7, 2012
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7.04.

Those in attendance:

Allison Altieri, , Daine Briody, Jeff Cryan, Lisa Drzewiecki, Sandy Hill, Julie Hodgson, Kevin Lambert, Megan Meikle, Jeannette Picard,

President Diane Briody brought the meeting to order and members introduced each other. Members were welcomed.

Reports

President: Diane Briody shared a question from a parent regarding study skills offered at MMS. Jeff Cryan noted that students develop the need for study skills at their own pace. Julie Hodgson explained that many study skills are embedded in the curriculum. A discussion followed concerning student needs and ways to help them develop learning strategies. An idea was given to add a section to the newsletter highlighting a certain area of learning strategy.

Vice-President: Allison Altieri reported that the MMSA newsletter is a compilation of materials sent from various school community members. She is happy to help someone who would like to move into the position.

Treasurer: Megan Meikle reviewed treasury balances. The MMSA now has a total balance of 8585.85 with total deposits of \$6196.89. Sources included school photos, boxtops, and the mixed bag fundraiser, with a few more checks coming in.

Secretary: Jeannette Picard reviewed the minutes for our last meeting. The secretary's report was accepted unanimously with revision.

Administrative: Jeff Cryan reported on a number of items:

- One School One Read – MMS will participate in OSOR during the CMT weeks using Tripods by John Christopher, as classic SciFi dystopian novel.

- History Day – The warm-up has been held with Regional History Day scheduled for 3/24. the Robotics Team will run the concessions as a fundraiser and the MMSA will organize the judges' catering. Julie Hodgson noted that it was good to have the extra time between local and regional events to allow students time to incorporate feedback into their entries.

- State Representative Haddad – Rep. Haddad has been very involved with the eighth grade. He attended the Model Congress and was inspired to set up an essay contest for proposed legislation. Three students' proposals were for the minimum wage and two students went to the state legislature to testify regarding this issue.

- “Burma Shave” signs – a series of signs have been placed along the entry drive. Rhymes were written by Superintendent Fred Baruzzi and signs were created by our Tech Ed. Department in order to make pickup traffic safer. A discussion ensued regarding the late bus and the suggestion was made to let parents know that improvements have been made to the system, perhaps lessening the need for so many individual cars at parent pickup.

- Additional faculty changes: Sheila Danforth, Gr 7 Science, is leaving MMS to take a position out of state. Other hiring committees are in progress.

Faculty Representative: Julie Hodgson filled in to report on a number of activities:

- Spirit Week – the canned food drive was a success. Jeff Cryan dyed his hair blue as part of his pledge. Good participation was seen for other events, as well.

- Student Council/Spring Talent Show – This event is being coordinated by Nancy Gilbertson and will tie in with a silent auction fundraiser.

Other Business

-Nominations – A nomination form will go out with the report card newsletter and Q-Notify. Many officer positions will be open as most officers are the parents of eighth graders.

-Eighth Grade Promotion – A list of volunteers will be contacted. Wednesday, 6/20 is the last day of school. A promotion date will be set once the high school graduation date is set. It is generally held on the last day before school is out. A letter will coming out to parents regarding end-of-year dates for eighth graders.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15..

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Picard

Secretary (pending approval at our next meeting)